# NASA HQ Update

Paul Hertz
GLAST Program Scientist (Acting)

GLAST LAT Meeting October 23, 2002



# GLAST SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS & ISSUES

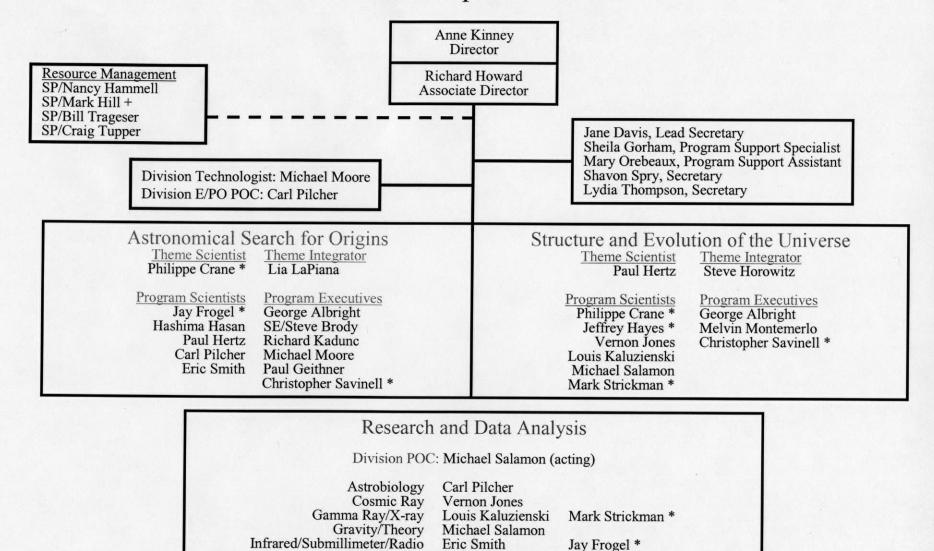
#### Significant Accomplishments

- GLAST spacecraft contract was awarded to SpectrumAstro Inc
  - Selection based on "best technical proposal and lowest cost".
  - Technical and management interface meetings have begun.
  - Spacecraft Kickoff Meeting was held at SpectrumAstro Inc.
- Completed LAT (Large Area Telescope instrument) DELTA PDR/Baseline Review was held at SLAC 7/30-8/1; feedback was positive.
- GBM (GLAST Burst Monitor instrument) breadboard detector testing shows performance exceeding requirements and even goals in critical areas.
- · Finalizing Ground System and Ops acquisition strategy.
  - Plan to invite external peers to review trade and provide feedback.
- International LOAs: DLR LOA is completed; ASI LOA is in Italy; CNES LOA is at NASA HQ.

#### <u>Issues</u>

· None.

### Astronomy & Physics Division Office of Space Science



Philippe Crane \*

Jeffrey Hayes \*

Vernon Jones

Hashima Hasan

SS/Glen Mucklow

Paul Hertz

Optical/Ultraviolet

MO&DA

Balloons

#### **BEYOND EINSTEIN**

#### Find out what powered the Big Bang.

- 1. Search for gravitational waves from inflation and phase transitions in the Big Bang.
- 2. Determine the size, shape, and energy content of the Universe.

#### Observe what black holes do to space, time, and matter.

- 3. Perform a census of black holes throughout the Universe.
- 4. Determine how black holes are formed, and how they evolve.
- 5. Map spacetime throughout the Universe and near the event horizons of black holes.
- 6. Observe stars and gas plunging into black holes.

#### Identify the mysterious dark energy pulling the Universe apart.

- 2. Determine the size, shape, and energy content of the Universe.
- 7. Determine the cosmic evolution of the dark energy pulling the Universe apart.

#### **CYCLES OF MATTER AND ENERGY**

#### Explore the cycles of matter and energy in the evolving Universe.

- 8. Explore where and when the chemical elements were made.
- 9. Understand how matter, energy, and magnetic fields are exchanged between stars and the gas and dust between stars.
- 10. Discover how gas flows in disks and how cosmic jets are formed.
- 11. Identify the sources of gamma-ray bursts and cosmic rays.

#### Understand the development of structure in the Universe.

- 12. Learn what physical process gave rise to galaxies and systems of galaxies.
- 13. Explore the behavior of matter in extreme astrophysical environments.
- 2. Determine the size, shape, and energy content of the Universe.
- 4. Determine how black holes are formed and how they evolve.

structure and evolution of the universe

# BEYOND EINSTEIN:

from the big bang to black holes

WHAT POWERED THE BIG BANG?



WHAT HAPPENS AT THE EDGE OF A BLACK HOLE?



WHAT IS DARK ENERGY?



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

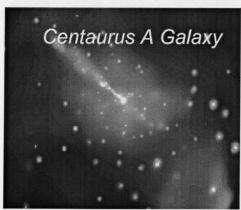
## The Excitement of Chandra!

The current state of the art in X-ray astronomy

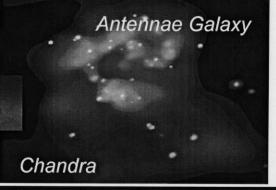












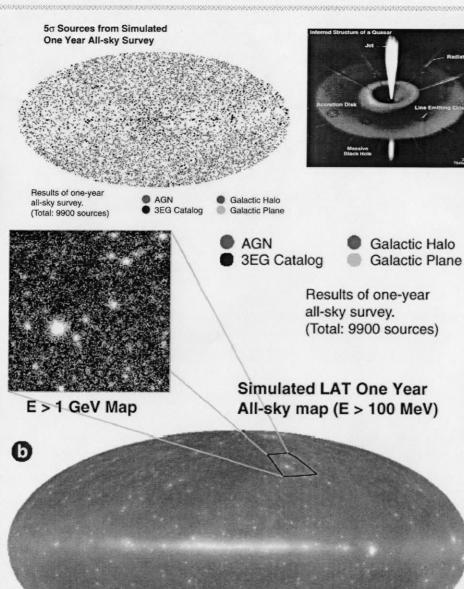


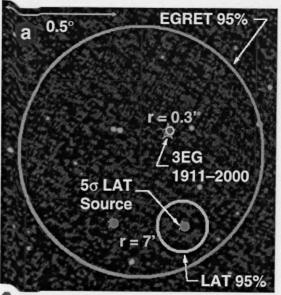
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Galactic Center

### The Promise of GLAST!







Rosat or Einstein X-ray Source





## Realizing Science Beyond Einstein



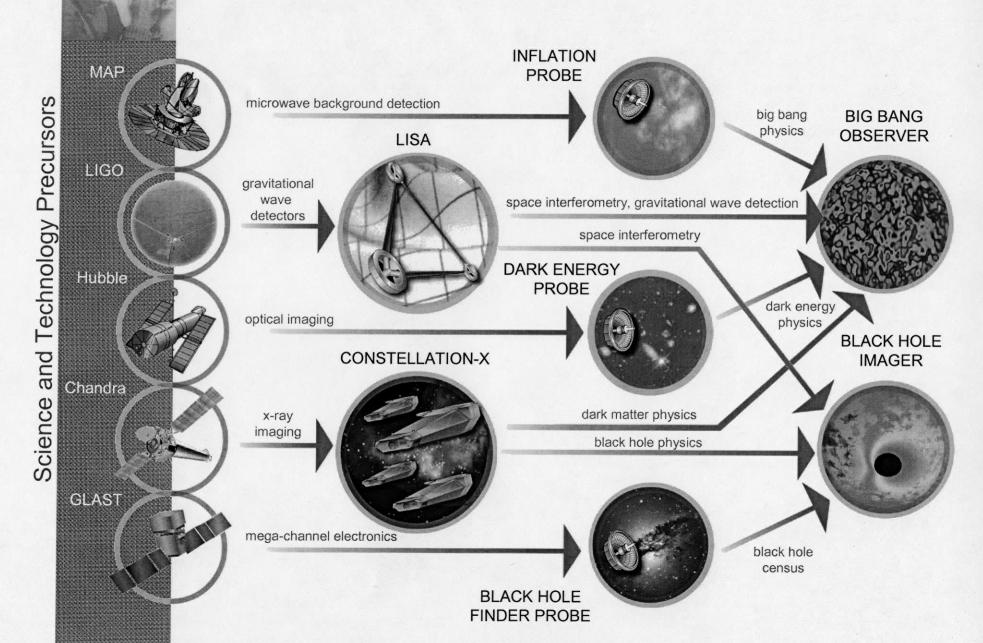
Three inter-linked elements that work together:

- 1. <u>Einstein Great Observatories</u> that provide breakthrough increases in capabilities to address all aspects of Beyond Einstein science
  - Constellation-X: Spectroscopy close to the event horizon of black holes and place constraints on the dark side of the universe
  - LISA: Gravitational waves from merging black holes and the early universe
- 2. <u>Einstein Probes</u> to address focused science objectives:
  - Determine the nature of the Dark Energy
  - Search for the signature of inflation in the microwave background
  - Take a census of Black Holes of all sizes in the local Universe
- 3. A technology, theoretical and education program to inspire scientists and engineers towards the vision:
  - Image and resolve the event horizon of a Black Hole
  - Directly detect the gravitational waves emitted during the Big Bang



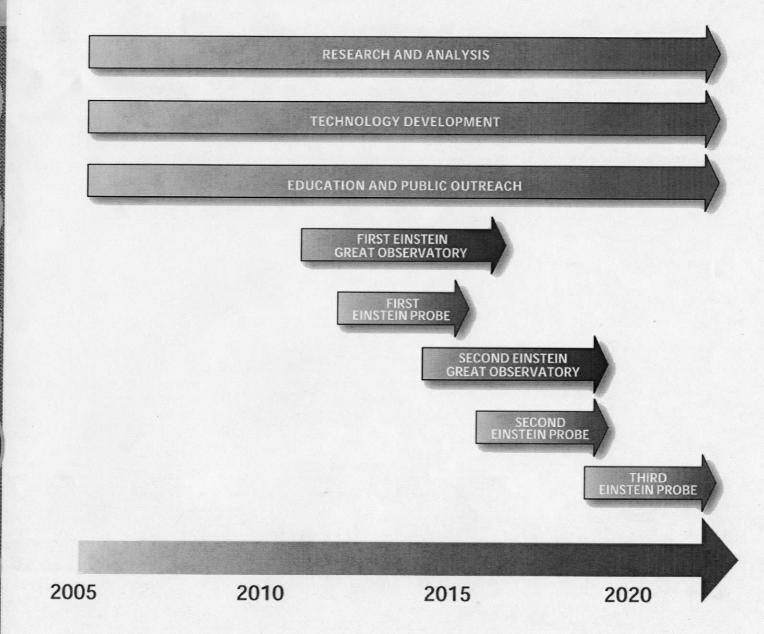
## Beyond Einstein Program





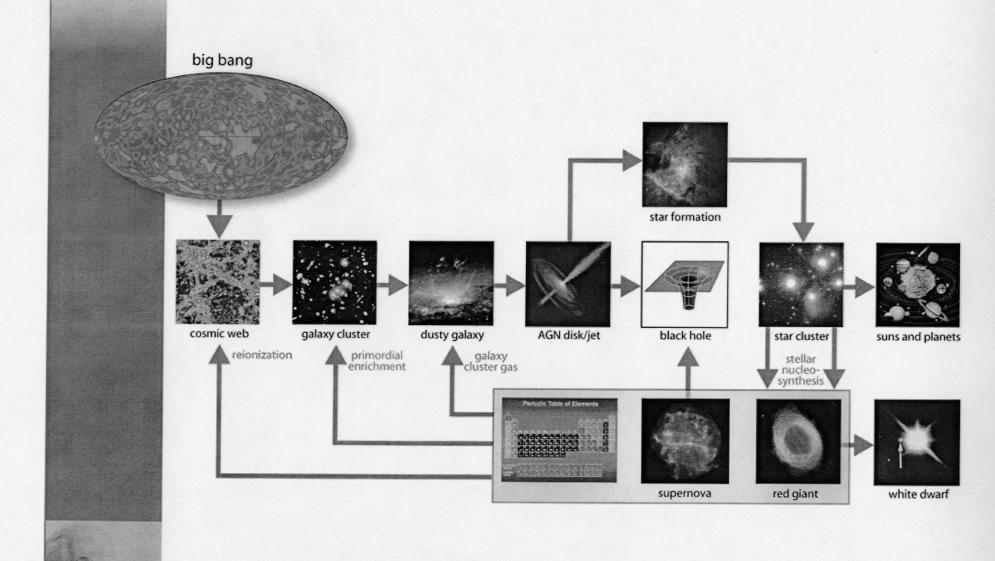


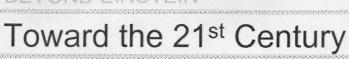
## **Beyond Einstein Timeline**





### SEU CYCLE







How did the universe begin? Does time have a beginning & an end? Does space have edges? The questions are clear and simple. They are as old as human curiosity. But the answers have always seemed beyond the reach of science.

UNTIL NOW.

